

NEWS RELEASE

City of Wichita Falls Public Information Office
(940) 761-7401
info@wichitafallstx.gov



June 4, 2014

Pool Owners Urged to Use Caution with Alternate Water Sources

Wichita Falls, Texas- Many area swimming pool owners are turning to alternate sources of water to fill their pools this summer now that Stage 5 restrictions prohibit the use of City treated water to be used in swimming pools. The Wichita Falls-Wichita County Health District is urging pool owners to use extreme caution when using an alternate water source. If not treated correctly an alternate water source could contain one or more of the following infectious diseases:

- Typhoid
- Salmonella
- Shigellosis
- Dysentery
- E-coli
- Cryptosporidiosis
- Giardiasis

The Health District strongly recommends that residents only use an alternate source of water, for a pool, that meets safe drinking water standards.

Water sources that can be used:

1. Water from another city that is hauled in using a state permitted potable water truck
2. Well water that has been tested for total coliforms and e-coli.

Water that should NOT be used:

1. Grey water
2. Effluent waste water
3. Storm water run off
4. Diverted rain water from a roof or building
5. Water from a stream, pond or lake

Residents who have or expect to drill a water well, for swimming pool use, must make sure that the well is drilled correctly and disinfected properly before the water is used in a swimming pool.

If water is being brought in by truck, make sure that the tanks are marked as "Well Water" and conform to the Health District Guidelines. A list of Registered Well Water Haulers is available on the City's website at <http://tx-wichitafalls.civicplus.com/wellwaterhaulers>. The list will be updated as new haulers register with the Health District. Do not accept the water if the tanker is used for other liquids such as untreated water or energy production waste.

The Health District and the Public Works Department encourage residents to stay informed about the water they are putting in their swimming pools this summer. Additional information is available from the Health District's Environmental Health Division by calling 761-7822.